

Applic. No. 10/694,613
Amdt. dated February 12, 2007
Reply to Office action of December 12, 2006

Claim Amendments

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A sheet-processing machine,
comprising:

at least one processing station being a printing unit;

a stacking station for holding a stack formed from processed
sheets and disposed downstream of said printing unit;

a delivery with an endless conveyor transporting the processed
sheets in a direction of the stack and disposed downstream of
said printing unit;

after-grippers following ~~a closed~~ an annular after-gripper
path during operation for taking over the processed sheets
from said endless conveyor and releasing the processed sheets
over the stack;

an after-gripper bar having said after-grippers disposed
thereon;

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a mechanism guiding said after-gripper bar together with said after-grippers along said ~~elosed~~ annular after-gripper path, said mechanism being set to positions correlating with different formats of the processed sheets;

said endless conveyor and said mechanism having a torque-transmitting connection with each other, said torque-transmitting connection being a flexible drive having an endless flexible drive unit acting on said mechanism; and

a drive actuating said mechanism, said drive keeping said mechanism at one and the same phase angle with respect to said printing unit in each of the positions.

Claim 2 (original): The machine according to claim 1, wherein said mechanism and said drive form one structural unit disposed to be displaced with respect to said delivery.

Claims 3-5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (previously presented): The machine according to claim 1, wherein during a change in the positions of said mechanism, said flexible drive is driven such that said mechanism is not actuated.

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Claim 7 (previously presented): The machine according to claim 1, wherein said endless conveyor contains a first conveyor and a second conveyor, said first conveyor having and bearing first gripper bars for gripping leading gripper edges of the processed sheets, and said second conveyor having and bearing second gripper bars for gripping trailing gripper edges; and

further comprising a rotary coupling operating in one of a first operating state and a second operating state, operating in the first operating state produces a drive connection between said first conveyor and said second conveyor and, operating in the second operating state releases said second conveyor for a phase adjustment with respect to said first conveyor, and said torque-transmitting connection between said mechanism and said endless conveyor exists with said second conveyor.

Claim 8 (original): The machine according to claim 7, further comprising an actuating drive having a drive connection to said second conveyor through said rotary coupling in a second operating state of rotary coupling and, in a first operating state of said rotary coupling, said actuating drive is uncoupled from said second conveyor.

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Claim 9 (original): The machine according to claim 8, further comprising:

a further actuating device actuated rotationally and having an actuating wheel for setting the positions of said mechanism;
and

a drive connection between said actuating wheel and said actuating drive.

Claim 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (previously presented): The machine according to claim 12, wherein said sheet guide device has a stationary first guide section and a second guide section following said stationary first guide section in a direction of the stack and adjoins said stationary first guide section, said second guide section can be adjusted for accommodating different formats of the processed sheets, said first stationary first guide section and said second guide section have mutually facing end sections which inter-engage in a manner of a comb, and said clearances are formed in said second guide section.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A rotary press, comprising:

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at least one processing station being a printing unit;

a stacking station for holding a stack formed from processed sheets and disposed downstream of said printing unit;

a delivery with an endless conveyor transporting the processed sheets in a direction of the stack and disposed downstream of said printing unit;

after-grippers following an after-gripper path during operation and taking over the processed sheets from said endless conveyor and releasing the processed sheets over the stack;

said delivery having a sheet guide device which can be set to different formats of the processed sheets, said sheet guide device having ends with clearances formed therein, said after-grippers engaging in said clearances and taking over the processed sheets from said endless conveyor;

a mechanism guiding said after-grippers, said mechanism being set to positions correlating with different formats of the processed sheets; and

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a drive for actuating said mechanism, said drive keeping said mechanism at one and the same phase angle with respect to said printing unit in each of the positions.
